

What is claimed is:

1. A data recording medium on which medium identification information unique to the data recording medium has been recorded, the medium identification information having information with which hardware that can use a program recorded on the data recording medium is recognized, a starting program having been recorded on the data recording medium, the starting program being automatically started corresponding to obtained hardware identification information and the medium identification information.

10 2. The data recording medium as set forth in claim 1,

15 wherein the data recording medium is bundled with the hardware.

20 3. A data recording medium on which medium identification information unique to the data recording medium has been recorded, a plurality of programs having been recorded on the data recording medium, the medium identification information having information with which one of the plurality of programs is designated, a starting program causing the program designated with the medium identification information to automatically start having been recorded on the data recording medium.

25 4. The data recording medium as set forth in claim 3,

wherein the data recording medium is bundled  
with the hardware.

5. A program starting method for starting a  
program recorded on a recording medium, comprising the  
steps of:

obtaining medium identification information  
unique to the recording medium;

obtaining hardware identification information  
that represents hardware that can use the program;

10 comparing the medium identification  
information and the hardware identification  
information;

starting the program when the hardware  
identification information represents hardware that the  
medium identification information represents; and

15 performing an error process when the hardware  
identification information does not represent hardware  
that the medium identification information represents.

6. A program starting method for starting a  
20 program recorded on a recording medium, comprising the  
steps of:

obtaining the medium identification  
information;

25 determining a type that the medium  
identification information represents;  
selectively starting a program corresponding  
to the type that the medium identification information

represents; and

performing an error process when the hardware identification information does not represent hardware that the medium identification information represents.

5. 7. A starting program for causing a computer to execute a program recorded on a recording medium, the starting program comprising the steps of:

obtaining medium identification information unique to the recording medium;

10 obtaining hardware identification information that represents hardware that can use the program;

comparing the medium identification information and the hardware identification information;

15 starting the program when the hardware identification information represents hardware that the medium identification information represents; and

performing an error process when the hardware identification information does not represent hardware that the medium identification information represents.

20 8. A starting program for causing a computer to execute a program recorded on a recording medium, the starting program comprising the steps of:

obtaining the medium identification information;

determining a type that the medium identification information represents;

selectively starting a program corresponding to the type that the medium identification information represents; and

5 performing an error process when the hardware identification information does not represent hardware that the medium identification information represents.